

Abstract of the Disclosure

VPI/VCi of an ATM cell is translated into an internal ID by distributing VPI/VCi entries into sections in a table according to a portion of each VPI/VCi entry. A section to be searched according to the portion of a VPI/VCi of the received ATM cell is selected; and a search over the selected section is performed to find an entry corresponding to the VPI/VCi of the received ATM cell. An internal ID corresponding to the found entry is outputted.